Committee to examine sickness in in P.S. Us.

751. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :
SHRI N. E. BALARAM :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee headed by the Deputy Labour Minister, constituted to examine the broader aspects of sickness of PSUs and suggest remedial measures has submitted its reports; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by it and what is Government's decision thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The report of the sub-committee of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Labour which was set up on 1-4-1992 on the demand of some of its members under the Chairmanship of Shri P. S. Ghatowar, the then Union Deputy Labour Minister, to study cerain chronically sick public sector units was placed before the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Labour on 12-11-1992.

(b) A statement giving the main recommendations|observations of the Sub-committee is attached. (See below) The report has peen forwarded to the Administrative Ministries concerned for appropriate action.

Statement

The Main recommendations|observations of the sub-committee are as follows :—

1. All the chronically sick central public sector units (PSUs) should be given necessary budgetary support till a final view on their revival is taken by the appropriate authority in consultation with the workers. Some units which require only marginal dose of capital for revival could be revived without reference to BIFR by immediate allocation of such capital so that their industrial sickness is not aggravated further.

2. All rehabilitation plans for the chronically sick central public sector units may be made expeditiously in consultation with experts|labour.

3. The Government might ensure that closure of units and retrenchment of workers will not be generally resorted to. The drive for modernisation of chronically sick PSUs should be without distress to labour and labour should be prepared to join in a programme of re-training|renewed skill formation to be launched by Government.

4. Both the managers and the workers must join hands to run the chronically sick units with the objective of profit achieving, full utilisation of the installed capacity and high degree of productivity. For this purpose, wherever the workers' co-operatives are willing to come forward to take over the sick units, their offer should be seriously considered with the stipulation that their past liabilities towards statutory and non-statutory dues could be suitably reimbursed or otherwise taken care of.

5. There should be an element of accountability in the central PSUs and unrestricted participation of workers in management.

6. In the context of the world-wide phenomenon of rapid changes in technology and growing technological obsolescence modernisation and technological upgradation of of existing central PSUs with necessary investment should be given due consideration by the the Central Government.

7. In view of the fact that quick decisions on viability of chronically sick central PSUs are required to be taken it would be necessary to restore the BIFR to its full strength of 14 members as against the 50 percent existing strength at present.

8. The administrative Ministries of the central PSUs and the trade unions concerned should be associated with drawing up of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and if the performance of a PSU fails short of the levels of performance agreed in the MOUs the Chief Executive and other members of the management of the PSU responsible for poor performance should be asked to quit.

9. There should be a greater coordination among the central PSUs and the healthy public sector units must come to the aid of the chronically sick PSUs and as a matter of policy Government shall give purchase preference to these chronically sick units atleast till they are fully rehabilitated.

10. The public sector enterprises particularly those in the core sector which are essential for the operation of the industrial economy should be made more growth-oriented and technically Viable.

Settlement of PF Claims of Burroughs Welcome India Ltd.

752. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners of Bombay and Calcutta have not settled the claims of former employees of Burroughs Welcome India Limited, Bombay;

(b) whether in some cases directions of High Courts for expeditious settlement of Provident Fund dues and payments have been overlooked by the authorities; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take against the company for withholding the PF contribution of its employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Labour Employed in Bidi Manufacturing

753 SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of labour employed by Bidi manufacturers on permanent basis and or contract basis, Statewise;

(b) whether Government have fixed any wage structure for contract bidi labour;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the contract labour in Maharashtra is facing a serious crunch due to higher rate of taxation in comparison with the neighbouring States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) State Governments notify the minimum wages for bidi manufacture. These wages are applicable to contract bidi workers also.